

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 13210 161643Z

50

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04

USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 XMB-02 /101 W

----- 121956

R 161440Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4511

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 13210

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: ETRD, ENRG, EFIN, UR, JA, US

SUBJECT: US-JAPANESE FINANCING FOR YAKUTIA NATURAL GAS EXPLORATION

REF: MOSCOW 9960

1. ON SEPTEMBER 16 JAPANESE EMBASSY ECONOMIC COUNSELOR (PRO-TECT) REPORTED FOLLOWING COMMENTS BY HIROSHI ANZAI, CHAIRMAN OF TOKYO GAS CORPORATION, WHO HAS BEEN IN USSR FOR PAST SEVERAL DAYS FOR MEETINGS OF SOVIET-JAPANESE COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION. ANZAI DISCUSSED YAKUTIA NATURAL GAS PROJECT AT PRIVATE DINNER WITH OFFICERS OF JAPANESE EMBASSY IN MOSCOW.

2. ANZAI SAID THAT SOVIET DEPUTY FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER ALKHIMOV HAD TOLD HIM THAT VISITING FOREIGN DELEGATIONS IN MOSCOW HAD MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM (ALKHIMOV) TO MEET WITH BANK OF AMERICA OFFICIALS IN LONDON THIS MONTH TO DISCUSS BANK OF AMERICA (AND CHASE MANHATTAN) PROPOSALS FOR A US DOLS 100 MILLION CREDIT TO MATCH THAT ALREADY EXTENDED BY JAPANESE FOR YAKUTIA NATURAL GAS EXPLORATION. HE NOW HOPES TO REVIEW THE AMERICAN BANKS' OFFER IN OCTOBER. (EMBASSY COMMENT: LOCAL BANK OF AMERICA REP REPORTS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 13210 161643Z

THAT ALKHIMOV HAS INVITED SENIOR BANK OF AMERICA OFFICIAL TO COME

TO MOSCOW FOR DISCUSSIONS ON CREDIT. END COMMENT)

3. ANZAI IS GENERALLY OPTIMISTIC THAT SOVIETS WILL EVENTUALLY ACCEPT AMERICAN CREDIT OFFER AND THAT FULL FINANCING PACKAGE WILL PERMIT EXPLORATION TO BEGIN IN 1976. HE ADDED THAT CHAIRMAN OF JAPANESE EX-IM BANK SUMIDA IS NOT CONCERNED ABOUT DISPARITY BETWEEN US AND JAPANESE INTEREST RATES, AND IS AWARE THAT 6.375 PERCENT JAPANESE RATE IS ALMOST ABSURDLY LOW; SUMIDA IS, HOWEVER, CONCERNED ABOUT DIFFERENCES IN LENGTH OF REPAYMENT. JAPANESE CREDIT STRETCHES OVER EIGHT YEARS PLUS THREE-YEAR GRACE PERIOD. HE WORRIES THAT US REPAYMENT PERIOD MAY BE TOO SHORT.

4. ANZAI IS EAGERLY LOOKING FORWARD TO PROJECT REACHING DEVELOPMENT STAGE, BUT HE HAS NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT DIFFICULTY OF US INVOLVEMENT. RECENTLY HE ASKED JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER MIKI, EX-IM CHAIRMAN SUMIDA AND MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (MITI) PRESIDENT KOMOTO THEIR VIEWS ON POSSIBILITY OF DEVELOPMENT OF YAKUTIA GAS WITHOUT US PARTICIPATION. FIRST TWO HAD NO COMMENT TO MAKE BUT KOMOTO WAS DEFINITELY NEGATIVE.
MATLOCK

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC COOPERATION, NATURAL GAS, EXPLORATION, PERSONAL OPINION, MEETINGS, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, FINANCIAL AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW13210
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750320-1142
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750948/aaaabqno.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MOSCOW 9960
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-JAPANESE FINANCING FOR YAKUTIA NATURAL GAS EXPLORATION
TAGS: ETRD, ENRG, EFIN, UR, JA, US, (ANZAI, HIROSHI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006